

NIGHT RIDERS SLAY LAWYERS

Two Men Taken from Hotel and
Body of One Found.

OTHER'S FATE PROBABLY SAME
RESULT OF FISHING FIGHT.

Union City, Tenn., Oct. 20.—Colonel R. Z. Taylor 60 years old, and Captain Quentin Rankin, prominent attorneys of Trenton Tenn., were taken from Ward's Hotel at Walnut Log, Tenn., fifteen miles from here at midnight by masked "night riders" and one or both of them were murdered. Captain Rankin's body was found this morning riddled with bullets and hanging from a tree a mile from the hotel. Efforts to find the body of Colonel Taylor have been futile. Sheriff Eastwood, of Obion county and a posse left Union City this morning for the scene of the murder. If they meet any of the "night riders" it is expected that a battle will be fought. Sheriff Hays, of Lake county also is on his way to the scene with a posse from Tiptonville.

The trouble which resulted in the death of Rankin and Taylor was caused by the passage of an act by the Legislature regulating fishing in Reelfoot Lake, a short distance from Walnut Log. "Night rider" disturbance over the same matter occurred about a year ago. Ever since then Colonel Taylor and Capt. Rankin had been in receipt of threatening letters, which they paid little heed.

About Twenty-Five in Mob.

Mr. Ward, manager of the hotel at Walnut Log, telephoned Sid Waddell, a stockholder in the West Tennessee Land Company, that about 75 masked men came to his place a midnight. They drew revolvers and called for Taylor and Rankin. The two men did not suspect trouble and came down immediately. As the attorneys passed into the front yard the assassins covered them with their revolvers. They were placed on horses behind "night riders" and carefully guarded. The mob turned down the road toward Reelfoot Lake. At the edge of the lake they produced a rope and placed the noose about Capt. Rankin's neck. The victim was strung up from a limb of a tree. The masked men then stepped back and opened fire on the body, riddling it with bullets.

Leaving the body of Rankin hanging, the assassins took Colonel Taylor to another spot. Search near Rankin's body has failed to reveal a trace of Taylor. Although it is believed that he was murdered, the theory has been advanced that perhaps he was spared so that the demands of the masked men might be granted.

Trouble of Long Standing.

The trouble between people on the banks of Reelfoot Lake and Colonel Taylor and Captain Rankin originated several years ago, when the two men incorporated the West Tennessee Land Company. They bought the lake from nonresident property owners and immediately made regulations of their own concerning fishing privileges.

The lake separates Obion and Lake counties in the northwest corner of Tennessee. Many people in the vicinity have made their living by fishing in the lake, and they became indignant when disturbed. They made demands of the land company and

these were followed by threats. Colonel Taylor brought about the passage of an act by the legislature regulating fishing on the lake. This made it a misdemeanor to fish without paying a heavy fee.

Mr. Taylor was the father of the Vanderbilt football star, Hillsman Taylor, who married Miss Katherine Taylor, daughter of Senator Robert L. Taylor, last fall. Mr. Rankin was a prominent lawyer of Trenton. He was a captain of a military company in the Spanish-American war and served in the Cuban campaign.

Offers Reward for Assassins.

Memphis, Oct. 20.—Governor Patterson today offered a reward of \$10,000 for the arrest of the person or persons guilty of the murder of Judge Taylor and Captain Rankin at Reelfoot Lake. Governor Patterson was at Covington when news of the murder was received, and canceled his engagement to speak there. He has been informed that not only were Judge Taylor and Captain Rankin murdered, but a surveyor who was with the lawyers is missing and may have met the same fate.

YOUR UNCLE SAM WANTS FARMERS

Government Offers 200,000
Acres Splendid Irrigation
Lands on Best Terms.

EVERY VARIETY OF CROP IN
TEMPERATE ZONE IS POSSIBLE.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 10 '08. Wanted—3,000 practical farmers who would like to own homes of their own. The government has nearly 200,000 acres of land lying under the various irrigation projects throughout the West for which water will be available next season. The farm unit on these projects varies in most cases from 40 to 80 acres of irrigable land, depending upon location. In many sections a tract of grazing land has been included in the farm unit wherever practicable, bringing the total up to 160 acres.

The only charge for these farms, besides the regular land office fee for filing, is the actual cost of getting water to them, and payment may be made in ten annual installments, without interest.

These irrigation projects are scattered over the entire arid region from Canada to the Mexican line. In consequence, every variety of crop grown in the temperate zone can be raised under them. If you would like a fruit or dairy farm, a garden for market truck, a tract for diversified farming, hog or poultry raising, just write to the Statistician of the U. S. Reclamation Service, Washington, D. C., for particulars.

Was Amazed That Bryan Had Not Been
Elected.

Winstead, Conn., Oct. 2.—John Brennan, an aged recluse, known as "Jack of the Woods," came to town to-day for two purposes he said. First was to learn who the candidates are for the presidency, and second, to get a winter's supply of gin. He had never heard of Taft and when informed that Bryan was the Democratic nominee for President, he asked, "Hasn't he been elected yet?"

Try an ad in the Bee and see your sales increase. The people like the progressive merchants.

THE REAL FOLKS.

Folks that likes you—them's the kind
Worth a journey long to find;
'Course it's something purty fine
To be standin' up in line
Where the chosen congregate
In the councils of the great.
Yet fame, somehow, doesn't seem
To bring mutual esteem.

I'll admit it must be good
For to have it understood
That you're one of the select
Few considered quite correct,
Havin' people near an' far
Bowin' low an' sayin' "Sir!"
Must be mighty soothin' still
'Druther hear jes' "Howdy, Bill!"

Folks that whisper in your ear
Compliments that ain't sincere;
Folks that use ye for a lay,
Then jes' laugh an' turn away—
How we strive their praises to win,
Only to return agin'
To the fellows that stay true
Folks that takes you 'cause they do.

—McMahon's Railway Magazine.

WITH THE MINES AND MINERS.

Manager F. D. Rash has decided to divide the work of the motors at the Hecla mine, each motor to pull its own train from mine to tip instead of the motor crews changing trains at the half way station at they now do. It is thought that this will greatly facilitate matters and increase the output of coal perhaps twenty-five percent or more.

The St. Bernard Mining Company has opened up the No. 11 mine at Arnold which commenced loading coal last Monday. The capacity of this mine now is about ten cars daily, but as it is more fully developed the production will increase until it is thought it will equal the other mines.

The dividing of the old No. 11 mine promises to lighten the work on the engine crews, consisting of Joe Brown and brother, the distance being much shortened and will cause an increase in the production of coal. Even last Saturday with a small crew, Weigher Walker shipped nineteen cars, a number that has not been reached for some time before.

A young boy by the name of Landers had one of his feet badly crushed in the Hecla mine last week, while jumping on and off the cars in motion. His foot was caught between the cars.

L. W. Grasty, of the Kingston Mine, made relatives here a brief visit last Sunday. While here he stated that he has averaged cutting over three rooms per day since the mine opened up the last of May. The mine is so far developed as to allow the use of seven machines at one time now, and the production of the mine, opened only about four months, is now ten cars per day.

Foreman W. A. Toombs and crew of men are now busily engaged in making some repairs on the slack washer building, reinforcing the structure against the vibration of the coal washing machinery.

Asst. Gen. Mgr. Spillman, who is giving his undivided attention to the Fox Run mine, reports that he has the best producing mine of the section chain, and is proving it every day.

The erection of a new slack washer building is contemplated in the near future, in which event the location is to be changed from the present site to the other side of the hill just above it. Foreman Toombs has already made the estimate on the

material needed, and he claims he has made his calculations so close as to be able to say the exact number of nails needed for the building. He is certainly an expert.

Assistant Foreman Ermit Wyatt, after a week's illness, was able to resume work Monday. He is a good man, and his services in the mine are greatly missed by foreman Geo. Wyatt.

Electrician N. W. Umstead and crew were rushed with work the past week completing the wiring of the new No. 11 mine.

Foreman Rule, we believe, is the only one of the St. Bernard force who has the supervision of two mines. He now looks after both the Arnold and the new No. 11 mine, but with such able assistants as Henry Harris and Ed Barnett, he will get along nicely with both mines.

On account of the scarcity of water several of the mines in this county may have to shut down soon. One mine is already forced to use the mine water for steam purposes. The St. Bernard Mining Company still has a supply for present needs, because of the lake provided some years ago for just such dry times as these.

Machinist W. D. Caviness and Assistant James Ligon were called to Fox Run mine last Sunday to unload a new boiler for that mine. Much new machinery is being put in there this season.

Weigher Rhea, of the Arnold mine, now has his hands full looking after the shipping of coal both from Arnold and new No. 11, but a man of his experience will be equal to his increased duties.

G. A. Haley, of the Hecla mine track force, has been transferred to the new No. 11 mine where the roof is higher and he can work with greater ease. He is a good man and his place will be hard to fill.

The demand for coal continues to increase and the St. Bernard Mining Company is constantly adding to their force in the mines. Before long eight hundred cars weekly will be about the average production from all their mines, or something like eight hundred thousand bushels of coal placed on the market each week.

Miners, generally speaking, fail to look upon the serious side of the tariff question. The success of the party advocating free trade would certainly in many

localities, mean the closing down of the mines. When the factories are forced to close by the admission of foreign goods free the coal production will be greatly curtailed. Look to your interest and vote accordingly.

The Engineers' Association of the South will hold its annual meeting this year, at Chattanooga, Tenn., on November 14. Nearly all the prominent civil engineers in the South hold membership in this society. Earlinton has on its roster six names of men who belong to it. Jno. B. Atkinson is one of the original members organizing in Nashville, Tenn., in 1889. Those from here belonging are Frank D. Rash, J. F. Whipler, Thos. O. Long, Jno. K. Orr and W. L. Gordon, Jr. The last two named are now with the Zeigler Coal Company at Zeigler, Ill. This society has a membership of 375 and is one of the largest institutions of its kind in the United States.

Geo. Miller, colored, who was severely hurt in the Arnold mine eleven years ago, and who, since his recovery has been porter for the St. Bernard office, has decided to try mining again. George is a good responsible colored man who has the good will of all who know him and we hope he will do well.

On October 12th Cortez Atkins a driver at the Barnesley mines, with one mule, in nine hours, pulled 108 mine cars of coal, the distance of between 700 and 800 feet and dropped them down an incline to the tippie where they were loaded into the railroad cars. This makes a record that will be hard to beat.

The Joplin Kentucky Zinc Co., located at Joplin, Mo., and principally owned by Earlinton men was fifth in the production of zinc at that place last week. This is saying a good deal as there are a number of mines located in that city.

Harden Tweddell now has charge of the Victoria mine during the temporary absence of Jno. Carroll. Mr. Tweddell lately passed the examination required by the State for mine foreman.

LONG-WYATT

To Be Married at High Noon Octo-
ber 28th.

The following invitation has been received in Earlinton:

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Wyatt requests the honor of your presence at the marriage of their daughter, Georgia, to Mr. John Louis Long on Wednesday, October 28, 1908, at twelve noon, Christian church, Earlinton, Kentucky.

The contracting parties are well and favorable known in this city. Mr. Long is manager of his fathers business and is a young man of sterling character and is well liked by all.

The bride to be is one of Earlinton's fair and most popular young ladies whose sweet disposition and lovely character has made friends of all.

They will reside here in the future and The Bee with their many friends wish them success.

The "bargain hunter" is no longer the woman who merely haunts the stores, she is the woman who watches the ads, and goes to the stores strictly on business.

An ad in the Bee is a business bringer.

LAWYER ESCAPES MOB

Col. R. Z. Taylor Safe in Tennessee
After Dodging Bullets
of "Night Riders"

Patterson Abandons Campaign to
Pursue Men who Committed Outrage.

Union City, Tenn., Oct. 21.—Colonel R. Z. Taylor, the Trenton lawyer who was taken from a hotel at Walnut Log at the same time that Captain Quentin Rankin was taken and murdered night before last, has appeared near Tiptonville, having escaped from the "night riders."

The masked men got into a dispute among themselves as to what to do with Taylor, some favoring killing him, while others wished to hold him to force a concession of free fishing on Reelfoot Lake. While the men argued Taylor dashed to the edge of a bayou leading from the lake and plunged in, swimming across.

Near the bank, opposite the firing night riders, Taylor threw up his hands and pitched forward over a log. Hundreds of shots were fired into the log, but not one penetrated far enough to injure him. Convinced that their victim had met death, the night riders did not attempt to cross the slough to examine the body, but left the scene after about 300 shots had been fired.

Lay for Hours in Mud and Water.

Colonel Taylor lay in the mud and water for hours fearing that some one had been left to watch. At dawn he wandered into the underbrush to make his way to a friendly community. For hours he traveled in this manner, the sun his only guide.

When night came he was still afraid to approach a house, and made his couch on a bed of leaves, sleeping until early morning. About 8 o'clock decided to make inquiry at farmhouse and followed a path which led into a rough road. Within a few minutes he came upon the home of Luther Rankin, overseer of the extensive Harri interests, where he was given breakfast.

The militia, ordered out by Governor Patterson, has arrived and under the direction of the Governor is being disturbed throughout the disturbed territory.

Governor Determined in Search.

Governor Patterson, who arrived here last night, this morning directed operations for the apprehension of those concerned in the murder of Captain Rankin at Reelfoot Lake. The governor gave out the following statement:

"I have offered the largest reward the law will permit for the arrest and conviction of the assassins of Rankins, and have ordered out troops. I have believed that the military should be the last resort in a state governed by law, but the time come when it is my duty as governor to use all the power at command to restore order and assist the courts in the apprehension and punishment of perpetrators. We have enough of lawless acts, threats, intimidation and methods of terrorizing cities and communities. This should be stopped and must be stopped or the consequences will be accepted. For the present have left the campaign for governorship, believing the holding of law and order in State is of more worth political.

(Continued on page 2.)